

Witness Name: Julie Moseley

Statement No: WITN3969001

Exhibits: 0

Dated: March 2020

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF JULIE MOSELEY

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I, Julie Moseley will say as follows:-

#### **Section 1. Introduction**

1. My name is Julie Moseley. My date of birth is the GRO-C 1959. I live at GRO-  
GRO-C I am unemployed and I live alone.  
I am in receipt of disability benefits.
2. I make this statement in relation to my ex-late partner, Derek William Haughton, who was born on the GRO-C 1944. He passed away on the GRO-C 2018, aged 73 as a result of receiving contaminated blood products.
3. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to Derek's full medical records. If and in so far as I have been provided with limited records the relevant entries are set out in the medical chronology at the end of this statement.

#### **Section 2. How Affected**

4. I wish to rely on Cressida's statement in relation to part of this section. She was closer to her father than I was.

5. Derek had Haemophilia B and he was diagnosed at a young age. As a result of his Haemophilia, Derek was treated with Factor IX (FIX). Cressida's statement provides more information in relation to the treatment that he received.
6. I had a relationship with Derek beginning c. 1987-1988 and bore his son Damon Haughton in GRO  
C 1989, living with him as his partner until the summer of 1995. We'd been platonic friends for some time before and he had told me about how some haemophiliacs had been infected with HIV as a result of treatment with infected blood products.
7. I recall Derek telling me that he had been voluntarily celibate for the previous two years, before we got together, on account of the infected blood scandal. He wanted to be absolutely sure that he wasn't infected with HIV before having sex with anyone again. This period had been highly tormenting for him. His wife had left him for another man in 1985-86, (nothing to do with fears over HIV, although of course he would have been scared over the possibility of infection). He had therefore been living alone with his fears since, unable to allow himself to turn to another woman for comfort. It was not long after this that HIV became a widespread media topic.
8. Derek had been given the all-clear around about the time we met, or shortly after, but the hospital was still routinely testing his blood once every 6 months, he thought for HIV if I recall correctly. At this time, we thought that HIV was the only virus that had been spread via contaminated blood, so after being cleared of this and being given the new, heat-treated FIX, we both believed that he was the safest sex partner around. Who else could say they were routinely tested for HIV on a regular basis? So, not only did we have unprotected sex throughout our relationship, I also helped him with injecting himself at times and thought nothing of handling materials that were contaminated by his blood.
9. As a result of being given FIX, Derek was infected with Hepatitis C (Hep C).

10. Derek cannot speak for himself as he died from infection complications last year, but I am certain that had he known or even suspected that he had been infected with Hep C he would never have exposed me, his daughter, our son or anybody else to avoidable risks. I believe that he would have certainly told us immediately of any such diagnosis. It really wasn't in his nature to risk exposing other people to physical harm.
11. I recall him phoning me up at some point during, or after, the summer of 1995 to tell me that he had just been told that he had been infected with Hep C from contaminated blood products. He advised me to get myself tested. I am not clear exactly when this was; it might have been months or even years later but I clearly recall I was standing in my own kitchen, (but cannot recall which of the several successive kitchens it was) and the call came through on my landline. This was definitely after we split up. I clearly recall that Damon was approaching his sixth birthday when we split up, therefore the earliest this could have been would be the summer of 1995. It is entirely possible that he phoned me a few years later, maybe 2000-ish, but I cannot be as clear on that. The message that he had unwittingly carried this virus throughout our relationship was clear.
12. I wasn't with him when he was told he was Hep C positive, so I do not know what his initial reaction was. I recall he seemed more despondent and bitter rather than angry when he told me, like he couldn't quite believe it. I would guess he was also feeling guilty and embarrassed so wouldn't be giving way to his anger about it whilst talking to me. I recall he was calm, but highly concerned of course. I can't recall his exact words now unfortunately as it was a long time ago. He was already cynical about the NHS because of the bad hospital experiences so it was a case of them not even meeting his already-low expectations sadly. I cannot recall exactly when he told me about the vCJD risk, but again, his reaction was one of resigned disappointment. Yet another let down. Whatever other feelings he had about this, he kept at bay.
13. Fortunately, I tested negative for Hep C but with news coming through of other such infections all the time, and the timeline uncertain, I am left very uncertain as to what other blood tests my son and I should have? Since the late

nineties, I have been increasingly ill with numerous, unexplained symptoms to the point that I am now quite severely disabled and dependant on disability benefits. I still cannot rule out that the infected blood plays a part in this illness. It begins to seem that I might have been unwittingly exposed to any number of viruses.

14. Cressida, Derek's daughter, has worked tirelessly, during recent months, to gain access to Derek's medical records and uncover the whole truth, running up against numerous frustrations finding mysterious gaps in his medical records. Frequently, she turns up more questions than answers but the number of infections Derek had, according to the records, and that he might have been exposed to, continues to grow; almost every time we speak there is something else. It is overwhelming.

15. This entire family continues to be afflicted with numerous anxieties and uncertainties regarding our own health. This is all on account of this historic scandal and the secrecy surrounding it. In addition to terrible grief for my son and his half-sister for the loss of their father to this particularly nasty, systemic illness.

16. All these anxieties were entirely avoidable had Derek been informed of his results in a timely fashion.

17. I recall being puzzled that the regular "HIV tests" continued (every six months, if I recall correctly) for years and years throughout our relationship, long after the HIV issue had been resolved. This seemed unnecessarily assiduous. I have a very different idea about that now, which I shall not share, as I'm sure that others can equally draw their own conclusions.

### **Section 3. Other Infections**

18. I wish to rely on Cressida's statement in relation to this section.

### **Section 4. Consent**

19. I wish to rely on Cressida's statement in relation to this section.

## **Section 5. Impact of the Infection**

20. At the time that I was with Derek I didn't know he was infected and therefore didn't know what to look out for. However, I did notice that he did go through some personality changes. He became bad tempered, even violent on one occasion, which was unlike him. I think the infection played a part in that, but who can know. He behaved in ways that were not previously characteristic of his nature.

21. Since finding out about Derek's infection, I have been very concerned about what I might have contracted from him. I didn't get tested for Hep C straight away because I was terrified of needles. By the time I did get tested, there were other things that I found out that I could have contracted, but this was a mental concern that I had for years. I have some physical ailments that could have been passed to me from Derek, however I can't be sure. It was a bit much to take in, I feel bad for how Damon was affected by it all. He tried to give a statement of his own, which he started to write, but became too overwhelmed with grief, so he left it to me to incorporate the impact on him into my statement. He is not able to confront anything like that. He is completely devastated by his father's death and subsequent revelations.

22. I don't think we were especially aware of the stigma that was associated with Hep C at the time. The chances of it being transmitted were small, so it helped to put it into perspective. Although there was a small possibility that I could have contracted it and transmitted to it Damon when he was born.

### **Impact on Damon**

23. Damon is okay with me adding how he is struggling to talk about it all. I had very much wanted to get a direct statement from him, but he has been unable to provide one. Damon has tried to write one, but even after an interval of more than a year, he cannot think about his father's illness and death without quickly becoming overwhelmed with grief and anxiety. He swiftly becomes a nervous wreck whenever the topic is discussed. Damon is very prone to guilt, as a rule. The trouble is he is NOT talking about his feelings. He has

mentioned the anxiety but not feelings of guilt about his inability to give a statement.

24. Prior to these events Damon was a very capable young man, was in employment, and had stood in as PA for his father at need. Since his father's death he has been so devastated that he now avoids people, company, conversation and is unable to manage his own affairs.

25. I should also like to add that Damon was living in Sheffield at the time his father fell critically ill but dropped everything and came to stay at my home in Coventry in order to be able to visit his father in hospital more easily. After his father's death he was too upset and depressed to travel back to Sheffield, even to collect his belongings; consequently he has been evicted from his home and has lost everything he possesses. He is now homeless, unemployed and penniless. He has received no help from any source not financially (except inasmuch as a friend has provided him with meals and a bed on occasions and I help support him out of my own disability benefits) nor has he received any grief counselling. It is not easy for anyone to come to terms with the death of a parent but in my son's case his father's suffering and death have been made all the harder to process on account of the concurrent Infected Blood Inquiry and the stream of shock revelations from his sister, Cressida, regarding his father's treatment at the hands of the NHS.

26. Damon wants to go back to Sheffield. He had enthusiastically planned to apply for a place on a BSc course at Sheffield University prior to his father's death. He was also learning to drive, and had a very active social life. He had very recently lost his job (through no fault of his own) but anticipated no difficulty in finding another and was confidently applying for various jobs and attending interviews. However, he has remained in Coventry by default, seeing as his support network (such as it is) is based in the Coventry area, and he lacks the will to look after himself. I have not, however, managed to persuade Damon to sign up with a GP in Coventry, so he is without access to medical services. I believe that an increasing cynicism towards the NHS has contributed to this reluctance.



27. He is not the same person he used to be at all and still very much appears to be in a state of shock.

28. I was forced to give up work and my social life twenty years ago, so my life has been pretty dire. Human contact has therefore been pretty sparse.

#### Section 6. Treatment/care/support

29. I do not know if Derek faced any difficulties or obstacles as we had split up before he was diagnosed with Hep C.

30. I do not know if any counselling or psychological support was ever made available to Derek. It's possible that it might have helped him had it been offered.

31. I therefore wish to rely on Cressida's statement in relation to this section.

#### Section 7. Financial Assistance

32. I wish to rely on Cressida's statement in relation to this section.

33. I did not receive any financial assistance from any of the Trust and Funds that were set up.

#### Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

34. I do not wish to remain anonymous.

35. I ~~do~~ do not want to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

#### **Statement of Truth**

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed:

**GRO-C**

Dated 24th March 2020.